



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STEVEN E. CHESTER
DIRECTOR

July 21, 2009

Mr. Greg Fish, Superintendent
Portage Lake Water and Sewage Authority
100 Princess Point Drive
Houghton, Michigan 49931

Dear Mr. Fish:

SUBJECT: Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan Approval for Portage Lake Water and Sewage Authority Septage Receiving Facility

Review of the Portage Lake Water and Sewage Authority (PLWSA) Wastewater Treatment Plant septage waste operating plan by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Bureau, Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section, is complete. The operating plan is approved and meets the requirements outlined in Section 11715b of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. The plan is posted on the Septage Waste Program website at www.michigan.gov/deqseptage and can be found by clicking on the second bullet point under "Downloads."

The receiving facility must operate in accordance with the approved plan. If a change in operations or conditions is anticipated, please file an amendment to the plan at least 30 days prior to the proposed date for implementation.

Thank you for your continued environmental stewardship and service to those with on-site septic systems in and around your community and those who service them. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Matthew Campbell, Coordinator
Septage Waste Program
On-Site Wastewater Unit
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section
Water Bureau
517-335-4178

mcc:ckp

cc: Ms. Lynne Madison, Western Upper Peninsula District Health Department
Mr. Steve Casey, DEQ



100 Portage Street Houghton, MI 49931

906-482-4810 • 800-562-7684 • Fax: 906-482-9799

[P02-27438]

July 1, 2009

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Matt Campbell
Septage Waste Program
Water Bureau - Department of Environmental Quality
Constitution Hall, Second Floor – North
525 West Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30273
Lansing, MI 48909

JUL 8 2009

WATER BUREAU
DWEHS

**RE: SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN
PORTAGE LAKE WATER & SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

Mr. Campbell:

On behalf of the Portage Lake Water & Sewage Authority (PLWSA), please find enclosed their proposed Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan. The operating plan was developed per the requirements outlined in the MDEQ letter dated June 9, 2005.

In addition, please find enclosed an affidavit of publication for the public notice, and an example letter sent to the Western Upper Peninsula District Health Department (WUPDHD) and the legislative body of each city, village, and township located in the proposed septage receiving service area, along with a list of all the city, village and township recipients. The PLWSA did not receive any negative comments during the 30-day comment period. In fact, only one comment was received, inquiring when the plan would take affect. A copy of page two of the MDEQ letter dated June 9, 2005 with filled in information pertaining to the facility name and operator is also included.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Hoimes, P.E.
Project Engineer

CLH:ca

Enclosure

Cc: Greg Fish – PLWSA Plant Supervisor (w/encl.)
File (w/encl.)

Offices also in:
Marquette
Iron Mountain
Sault Ste. Marie
Marinette

U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc.

www.UPEA.com

**PORTAGE LAKE WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY
SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN
May 27, 2009**

The Portage Lake Water and Sewage Authority (PLWSA) has been and will continue to receive domestic septage waste to serve the residents of its service area as defined herein.

Receiving Facility Location and Description

The PLWSA will accept septage at their wastewater treatment facility located at 100 Princess Point Drive, Houghton, MI 49931. Septage will be accepted for treatment into the newly constructed septage receiving station, located at the entrance to the PLWSA treatment facility. Transporters will park their equipment on the concrete pad and discharge septage into the receiving station (see attached sheet C105).

The receiving station consists of a building housing a discharge metering system plus a mechanical screen and trash remover. The facility contains two, 10,000 gallon storage tanks so that high strength wastes can be metered into the treatment system at controlled rates.

The PLWSA treatment facility consists of a conventional activated sludge process augmented by phosphorus removal with solids handling via anaerobic digestion and filter presses. Biosolids are applied to land to promote vegetation of stamp sands that have been covered by soil. Effluent is discharged to the Keweenaw Waterway and quality is typically excellent with BOD and TSS concentrations around 5 mg/l.

Hours of Operation

Prior to any hauler being permitted to dispose of septage at the PLWSA treatment facility a signed contract between the Facility and the hauler shall be on file with the facility Superintendent.

A sign in log shall be provided by the facility and haulers are required to sign-in for each load disposed of at the facility. In addition, each load of septage is monitored through an automated pumping system and recorded on the plant operating PC system. Haulers are required to clean up any spills around the receiving station.

PLWSA will accept septage Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and between 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, including holidays. In case of an emergency, arrangements may be made by calling (906)-487-9820.

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JUL 8 2009

WATER BUREAU
OWENS

Acceptable Categories of Septage

The PLWSA will accept the following categories of septage waste:

Domestic Septage – the septage pumped from home septic tanks, recreational vehicles (RV), cesspool, portable and fixed toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or similar storage or treatment works that receives only domestic sewage.

Food Establishment Septage – material pumped from a grease interceptor, grease trap, or other appurtenance used to retain grease or other fatty substances contained in restaurant wastes and that is blended into a uniform mixture, consisting of not more than 1 part of that restaurant-derived material per 3 parts of domestic septage, prior to disposal at the receiving facility.

Fee Structure

Treatment rates shall be set and reviewed on an annual basis by the PLWSA Board. Rates shall include treatment costs for Flow, BOD, TSS, and Phosphorus utilizing EPA and USACOE average concentrations for said parameters.

The fee structure for septage discharge into the PLWSA treatment facility is as follows:

- \$0.11 per gallon for septage originating in the following communities: Adams Township, Calumet Township, Elm River Township, Franklin Township, Hancock Township, Osceola Township, Portage Township, Quincy Township, Schoolcraft Township, Stanton Township, Torch Lake Township, Allouez Township, Eagle Harbor Township, Grant Township, Houghton Township, City of Hancock, and the City of Houghton. These are PLWSA partner communities that do not prohibit application of Biosolids within their boundaries.
- \$0.146 per gallon for septage originating in communities not listed above.

Loading Capacity

The PLWSA facility has adequate hydraulic and treatment capacity to accept septage. Table 1 illustrates the design capacity, current average daily influent, and the proposed maximum septage flows/loading.

Table 1

Parameter	Design Capacity	Current Ave. Daily Influent not including Septage	Remaining Capacity
Flow	3.2 MGD	1.6 MGD*	1.6 MGD
BOD	3,500 lbs/day	2200 lbs/day	1300 lbs/day

The PLWSA currently accepts an annual average of 2,000 gallons/day of septage, but during the summer months, the seasonal adjusted average is approximately 6,000 gallons/day. At an average septage BOD of 7,900 mg/l (average of septage and toilet wastes), this accounts for about 400 lb BOD/day during the peak summer months. Table I shows that the plant has a capacity to treat 1,300 lb BOD/day of septage. This corresponds to the BOD load of approximately 20,000 gal/day of septage. Accordingly, the PLWSA may allow a maximum of 20,000 gallons of septage per day, to be accepted, at the receiving facility.

PLWSA reserves the right to stop receiving septage during wet weather periods; however, PLWSA has adequate capacity to either treat or store septage and has yet to find it necessary to refuse septage discharges during wet weather months.

Service Area

The service area of the PLWSA is defined on the attached map. The service area, as depicted, includes lands within a 15 mile radius of the PLWSA facility. This shall be the facility's service area through October 12, 2010, at which time the PLWSA Board may extend the service area to 25 radial miles.

The PLWSA may accept septage from areas, outside the service area as defined above, on a case by case basis.

Other

Any hauler found disposing of any substance other than domestic septage or food establishment septage may lose their right to dispose of septage at the PLWSA receiving facility.

All haulers shall submit to random testing of their septage loads as requested by the PLWSA. Any problems encountered as a result of said sampling may result in the hauler losing their right to dispose of septage at the receiving facility.

The PLWSA reserves the right to limit the amount of gallons of septage accepted by the receiving facility for treatment and disposal by the PLWSA.

Any licensed hauler needing disposal information should contact the PLWSA Superintendent, Greg Fish, at 906-487-9820.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

IN THE MATTER OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN
PORTAGE LAKE WATER & SEWAGE AUTHORITY

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF HOUGHTON SS

YVONNE ROBILLARD

Being first duly sworn, says that he/she is the agent of the Publisher of The Daily Mining Gazette, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper in which the order was published on the following dates:

MAY 29, 2009

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED SEPTAGE
RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN
PORTAGE LAKE WATER & SEWAGE
AUTHORITY**

Per the amended Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, the following notice is hereby given.

The Portage Lake Water and Sewage Authority (PLWSA) has received, and will continue to receive, domestic septage waste and food establishment sewage on a limited basis in accordance with the developed operating plan.

The operating plan includes and describes: the location, hours of operation, types of septage waste accepted, fee structure, service areas, and other conditions applicable to the receipt and acceptance of septage waste.

Copies of the propose septage receiving facility operating plan have been submitted to all communities served by the PLWSA, and are available for review and written comments at the PLWSA treatment facility office located at Princess Point, Houghton, MI 49931, between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Written comments concerning this plan should be submitted by June 29, 2009, to attention of:

Mr. Greg Fish
Portage Lake Water & Sewage Authority
100 Princess Point Drive
Houghton, MI 49931

Yvonne Robillard
Agent of the Publisher of the Daily Mining Gazette

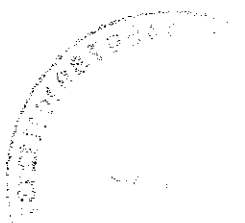
Subscribed and sworn before me this 29th

Day of May A.D., 2009

Catherine O'Connell Ricci
Notary Public, Houghton County, Michigan

Acting in and for the County of Houghton Michigan

CATHERINE O'CONNELL RICCI
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI
COUNTY OF HOUGHTON
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:
AUG 10, 2012





100 Portage Street Houghton, MI 49931

906-482-4810 • 800-562-7684 • Fax: 906-482-9799

[P02-27438]

June 1, 2009

Western U.P. District Health Dept.
Lynn Madison
540 Depot Street
Hancock, MI 49930

**RE: SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN
PORTAGE LAKE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY (PLWSA)**

Dear Ms. Madison:

On behalf of PLWSA, please find enclosed their proposed Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan including a service area map, as required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The PLWSA has adopted a formal Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan per MDEQ requirements. This plan sets policies and procedures for the PLWSA to accept pumped septage from the haulers who pump out septic tanks in the PLWSA area. A copy of the plan and a service area map is enclosed for your information.

The plan defines the service area for receiving septage. This area includes a service area within a 15 mile radius of the PLWSA treatment facility. Septage from outside this area will be accepted on a case by case basis.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call myself at (906) 482-4810 or Greg Fish, PLWSA Superintendent at (906) 487-9820.

Sincerely,

Chris Holmes
Project Engineer

CLH:CA
Enclosure

Cc: Greg Fish
File (w/encl.)

PORTAGE LAKE WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY

SEPTAGE RECEIVING PLAN MAILING LIST

JUNE 1, 2009

Client Alpha	Community Name	Addressee	Address1	Address2	Address3	City	State	ZIP	County
X	Adams Township	Adams Township	Richard D. Muleri, Supervisor	PO Box 520		South Range	MI	49963	Houghton
X	Allouez Township	Allouez Township	Kevin Gherna, Supervisor	PO Box 64	102 Second Street	Mohawk	MI	49950-0064	Keweenaw
X	Baraga Township	Baraga Township	Donald Takala, Supervisor	PO Box 246		Baraga	MI	49908-0246	Baraga
X	Calumet Township	Calumet Township	Paul Lehto, Supervisor	25880 Red Jacket Road		Calumet	MI	49913	Houghton
X	Calumet, Village	Calumet Village	Sue Dana, Comptroller	340 Sixth Street	PO Box 46	Calumet	MI	49913	Houghton
X	Chassell Village	Village of Calumet	Anthony Bausano, President	340 Sixth Street	PO Box 46	Calumet	MI	49913-0046	Houghton
X	Chassell Township	Chassell Township	Todd Van Kleeck, Supervisor	PO Box 438		Chassell	MI	49916	Houghton
X	Elm River Township	Elm River Township	Deborah A. Maki, Supervisor	33607 Lake Gerald Rd		Toivola	MI	49965	Houghton
X	Franklin Township	Franklin Township	Glenn Ekdahl, Supervisor	P.O. Box 465		Hancock	MI	49930	Houghton
X	Hancock Township	Hancock Township	Paul Kemppainen, Supervisor	55345 Salo Road		Hancock	MI	49930-9706	Houghton
X	Hancock, City	City of Hancock	Glenn Anderson, City Manager	399 Quincy Street		Hancock	MI	49930	Houghton
X	Houghton, City	City of Houghton	Scott MacInnes, Manager	616 Sheldon Avenue	P.O. Box 606	Houghton	MI	49931-0406	Houghton
X	Lake Linden, Village	Lake Linden, Village	James Aittama, President	401 Calumet Street		Lake Linden	MI	49945-1098	Houghton
X	Laurium, Village	Village of Laurium	Donald Bausano, President	310 Hecla Street	PO Box 627	Laurium	MI	49913-0627	Houghton
X	Osceola Township	Osceola Township	Steven Karpiak, Supervisor	PO Box 437	48545 Main Street	Dollar Bay	MI	49922	Houghton
X	Portage Township	Portage Township	Bill Bingham, Supervisor	47240 Green Acres Road		Houghton	MI	49931-0750	Houghton
X	Quincy Township	Quincy Township	Glenn North, Supervisor	PO Box 246		Hancock	MI	49930	Houghton
X	Schoolcraft Township	Schoolcraft Township	Omer Brooks, Supervisor	226 Front Street		Lake Linden	MI	49945-1317	Houghton
X	Sherman Township	Sherman Township	Dudley Martin, Supervisor	1028 Lake Street - Gay		Lake Linden	MI	49945	Keweenaw
X	South Range, Village	Village of South Range	Michael Rompf, President	45 Trimmountain Avenue	PO Box 129	South Range	MI	49963-0129	Houghton
X	Stanton Township	Stanton Township	David Chard, Supervisor	14010 Liminga Road		Atlantic Mine	MI	49905	Houghton
X	Torch Lake Township	Torch Lake Township	Brian Cadwell, Supervisor	PO Box 429		Hubbell	MI	49934	Houghton
X	Western U.P. District Health Dept.	Western U.P. District Health Dept.	Lynn Madison	540 Depot Street		Hancock	MI	49930	Houghton

Septage Waste Receiving Facility Operating Plan

The basic Operating Plan includes the following:

- location of the septage receiving facility.
- hours of operation.
- categories of septage waste your receiving facility will accept.
- fee structure charged to the hauler to dispose of septage for treatment.
- service area of your septage receiving facility.
- any other conditions for receiving septage waste established by the receiving facility.

Conditions regarding septage acceptance at your wastewater treatment plant may include receiving facility capacity (hydraulic and organic), volume of septage received, odor control, and other information required under Part 41, Sewerage Systems, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451 (Act 451).

We must also advise you of the requirement to provide public notification before you submit your operating plan to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for review and approval, pursuant to section 11715b of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers (Part 117), of Act 451. For more details on this requirement, please see item 1 below.

We hope that you decide to accept septage waste for treatment. If so, please fill out and submit the attached information to the address listed below. This is the basic information that must be contained in your Operating Plan as mandated by Part 117. The DEQ will review your Operating Plan, and when we determine that it is complete, we will approve your receiving facility for septage acceptance and treatment.

We request that your Operating Plan be submitted by April 11, 2008. The DEQ will post the approved operating plans on the DEQ Septage Waste Program website.

Portage Lake Water + Sewage Authority (PLWSA)

Name of receiving facility (wastewater treatment plant)

Greg Fish

6/29/09

Name of Superintendent/Chief Operator of receiving facility

Date

Check this box if domestic septage is not accepted at your receiving facility (WWTP) and mail back to the address listed below.

1. If you plan to receive septage waste for treatment at your receiving facility you are required to do the following (see Sec. 11715b. of Part 117) before submitting your proposed operating plan to the DEQ for review and approval:
 - (a) Publish notice of the proposed operating plan in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the receiving facility is located.
 - (b) If the person maintains a website, post notice of the proposed operating plan on its website.
 - (c) Submit notice of the proposed operating plan by first-class mail to the county health department and the legislative body of each city, village, and township located in whole or in part within the service area of the wastewater treatment plant to which the receiving facility is connected.



DEQ Septage Receiving Facility Checklist

Name of Septage Waste Receiving Facility:
Portage Lake Water & Sewage Authority (PLWSA)

DEQ Reviewer: M. Campbell
Review Date: July 17, 2009

Address of Septage Waste Receiving Facility:
**100 Princess Point Drive
Houghton, MI 49931**

Facility Contact: Greg Fish
Telephone Number: 906-487-9820
Emergency Phone No: 906-487-9820

The following information must be submitted in the Operation Plan in order to receive DEQ approval:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1. Location of septage RF.	X		
2. Hours of operation.	X		6:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. M-F and 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat., Sun. & Holidays
3. Categories of septage waste the RF will receive.	X		Domestic septage, RV, portable toilet waste and FES - see operating plan for details.
4. If food establishment septage is accepted, does the RF required that the FES meets the 1:3 ratio mandated by law? (Not OP req't.)	X		
5. *Fee structure charged to hauler.	X		11 cents/gallon for established communities (see operating plan) and 14.6 cents per gallon for septage pumped from outside those communities.
6. *Service area (septage acceptance) description of RF defined in detail.	X		See map in operating plan.

Septage Waste Receiving Facility Checklist
 Name of Septage Receiving Facility: **PLWSA**

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comments</u>
7. Notice of proposed operation plan:			
a) Was it mailed to county HD and legislative body of each city, village and township located in whole or in part of the service area?	X		
b) *Was it public noticed in the local newspaper?	X		
c) Was it posted on the facility website?			NA - Facility does not have a website.
8. Did the notice contain the following?			
a. Statement that the RF proposed to or is currently receiving and will continue to receive septage waste for treatment.	X		
b. Statement in the notice that the proposed operating plan is available for review during normal work hours.	X		
c. A request for written comments on the proposed operation of the RF and the deadline for receipt of such comments, which shall not be less than 30 days after publication, posting, or mailing of the notice.	X		
d. Receiving facility capacity.			
I) Hydraulic capacity:	X		3.2 MGD. 1.6 MGD current daily ave.
II) Organic capacity:	X		3,500 lbs BOD/day. Current ave. 2,200 lbs/day. Can accept up to 20,000 gallons of septage waste per day.

Septage Waste Receiving Facility Checklist

Name of Septage Receiving Facility: **PLWSA**

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comments</u>
8.d. Receiving facility capacity continued:			
*III) Wet weather operation considerations (CSO & SSO)		X	None noted.
9. Other conditions established for the RF.	X		See operating plan for details.

*5. Fee structure - must be justified and reasonable in accordance with standard accounting practices.

*6. This should be both written and illustrated on a map of the area. The service area information should include whether or not there is a county ordinance that also defines what they can or can't accept. It should also include whether or not they accept septage pumped outside of the service area.

*7b. Check to see if there were any comments from the public and document.

*8.d.(III). CSO-Combined Sewer Overflow and SSO-Sanitary Sewer Overflow.

Check with DEQ District Staff prior to approving the operating plan to ensure there are no operational and/or compliance concerns.